Childs, J. Rives

[Lynchburg, VA]

1923

February 6th, 1923

J. Rives Childs, Esq.
C/o American Express Co.
Berlin, Germany

Dear Sir:

Your letter of January 21st addressed to the Metropolitan Museum of Art has been forwarded to us for reply.

Unfortunately, at the present time we have no special funds to enable us to buy your collection of coins. We have, however, handed your letter to an interested collector.

As you are a collector, it is possible you may care to become a member of our Society. The dues are but Five Dollars annually, and this would give you the privilege of receiving all publications of the Society as issued. The enclosed list will give you an idea of the varied subjects already published in our monographs.

Should you decide to add your name to our Membership list, will you kindly fill out and return the enclosed card at your earliest convenience.

Very truly yours,

Acting Secretary & Curator

HW/E
Encs.

911 Rivermont Avenue
Lynchburg, Virginia.
26 November 1923.

American Numismatic Society,
New York, New York.

Gentlemen:

While visiting your Society's collection some months ago I called in and had the pleasure of a chat with your Director and at that time discussed my collection of Russian coins.

This collection consists of about 3000 varieties, including about 40 gold coins and the remainder about equally distributed between silver and copper. Each variety in the collection has been carefully classified by me.

The collection is fairly rich in rarities, containing some twenty to thirty coins of a second degree of rarity, according to Gill's classification of Russian coins into four degrees of rarity. It contains a very large number of coins of a second degree of rarity. For the most part the coins are in a very good state of preservation, there being a fairly large proportion of mint pieces.

On account of my entrance into the Consular Service and the necessity of a life abroad where I shall have no settled home I have decided to dispose of this collection. I have thought that you might be able to give me the names of some museums or private individuals in this country who might be interested in the purchase of the collection. To a private individual my price is $4,000 although if the collection were destined for some American museum I would be willing to make a fairly substantial reduction in the price.

I shall appreciate very much if you can give me any suggestions and I am asking that you address me: American Consulate, Jerusalem, Palestine, as I am leaving this week for my post abroad.

Thanking you for the favor of a reply, I am,

Very sincerely yours,

J. Rives Childs

J. Rives Childs.

Orst letter
to Wayte Raymond

November 30th, 1923.

J. Rives Childs, Esq.,
American Consulate,
Jerusalem, Palestine.

Dear Sir:

In reply to your letter of November 26th would say that ypu have no easy proposition in selling such a large collection of Russian coins. No Museum in this country has the funds for buying, and at the present time we know of no rich person who would be interested. As far as collectors are concerned, we know of none who would care to buy any collection as a whole. I will, however, keep your letter before me, and if anything should turn up, will try to offer your collection. We find it extremely difficult at the present time to interest any one even in matters of small amounts.

Very truly yours,

Curator.

November 30th, 1923.

Dear Raymond:

I am enclosing two letters for your perusal, and you can do as you wish conderning them. Please return these letters to us.

Very truly yours,

Wayte Raymond, Esq.,
489 Park Avenue,
New York.

J. Rives Childs, American Consulate.

Victor P. Curti, Esq.,